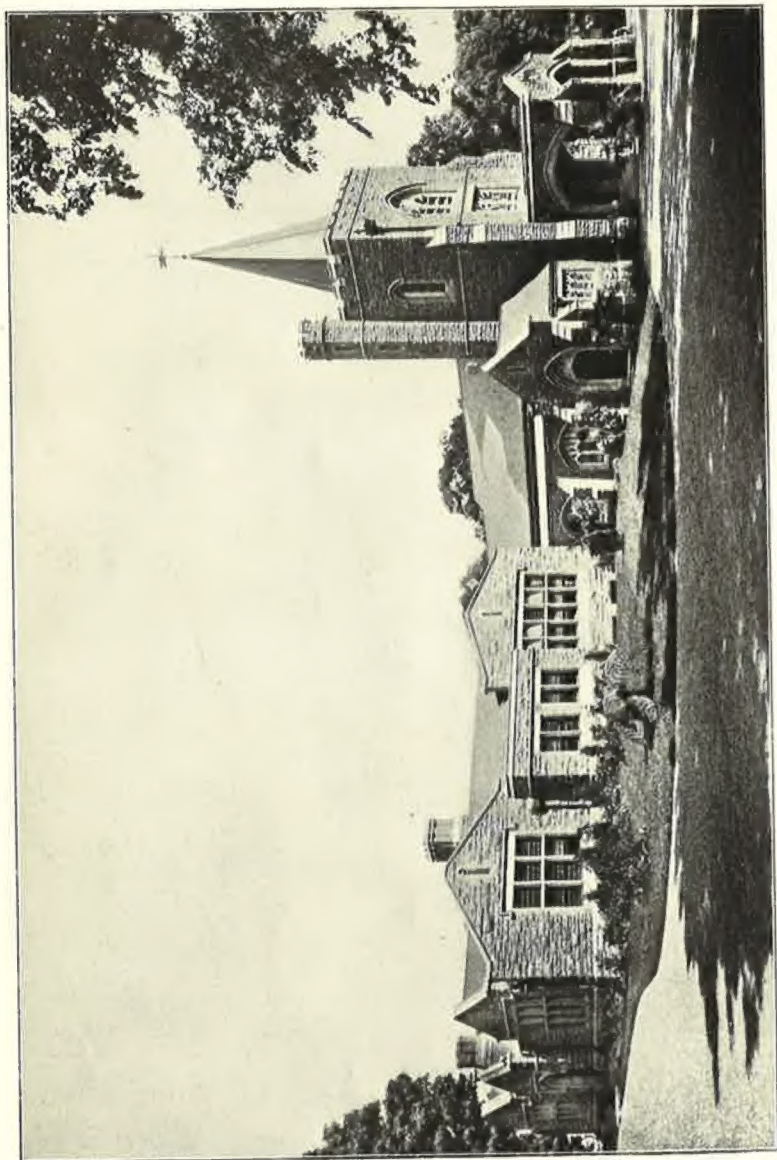

SIXTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT.

Mount Auburn Cemetery.

JANUARY 1, 1900.



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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES

OF THE

Cemetery of Mount Auburn,

FOR 1899.

TOGETHER WITH

THE REPORTS

OF THE

TREASURER AND SUPERINTENDENT.

SIXTY-EIGHTH YEAR.

BOSTON:

ALFRED MUDGE & SON, PRINTERS.

NO. 24 FRANKLIN STREET.

1900.

ANNUAL REPORT

OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION FOR 1899.

Trustees.					Term expires in	
JOSEPH SAWYER	.	.	.	.	1900	
T. QUINCY BROWNE	.	.	.	.	1901	
FRANCIS C. FOSTER	.	.	.	.	1901	
*SAMUEL JOHNSON	.	.	.	.	1902	
CHARLES F. CHOATE	.	.	.	.	1902	
JOSHUA M. SEARS	.	.	.	.	1903	
DAVID W. CHEEVER	.	.	.	.	1903	
DAVID R. WHITNEY	.	.	.	.	1904	
ISRAEL M. SPELMAN	.	.	.	.	1904	
JEROME JONES	.	.	.	.	1905	
FRANK W. REYNOLDS	.	.	.	.	1905	
JOSEPH B. RUSSELL	.	.	.	.	1905	

President.

ISRAEL M. SPELMAN.

Treasurer.

H. B. MACKINTOSH.

Secretary.

L. G. FARMER.

Superintendent.

J. C. SCORGIE.

Office of the Corporation.

5 TREMONT STREET,
BOSTON.

Office of the Superintendent.

AT THE CEMETERY,
P. O. ADDRESS, CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

* Deceased.

SIXTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT.

The Sixty-Eighth Annual Report is herewith submitted by the Trustees to the Proprietors, together with the reports of the Treasurer and Superintendent.

The results of the business and operations of the last year have been generally satisfactory.

The Repair Fund, which must always be regarded as a trust, the income of which is devoted to the perpetual care of lots and can be used for no other purpose, amounts to \$1,054,841.50, the increase of the past year being \$68,576.06.

The Permanent Fund, deposited in the Massachusetts Hospital Life Insurance Company, accumulating for the care of the Cemetery, after all its lots have been disposed of, amounts to \$403,970.85, showing a gain of \$10,171.53.

The General Fund, which may be used for construction and other purposes, stands at \$128,760.34. The increase of the past year has been \$10,611.87.

The attention of the Board has been mostly devoted the past year to the establishment of a crematory and the necessary repairs of the old chapel. Our architect, Mr. Willard T. Sears, at a meeting of the Board, on the 12th of April, presented plans in which he recommended reconstruction of the interior of this chapel and its use as a crematory chapel rather than the construction of a new building for that purpose. His plans and suggestions were adopted by the Board, and a vote was passed instructing the President, after obtaining the approval of the State Board of Health, to make the necessary contracts for the alterations substantially in accordance with the

plans and suggestions of Mr. Sears. This was accordingly done; contracts were made and the work commenced early in the summer. As a result we have now a crematory chapel, containing retorts in its basement nearly finished, which will be ready for use, on final approval by the State Board of Health, early in the present year.

In the appendix to this report will be found the Act of the Legislature, passed at our instance, under which we are authorized to incinerate as well as inter the bodies of the dead, and other legislative matter pertaining to cremation. During the past year, the ashes of twenty-one cremated bodies have been interred in our cemetery, and the yearly number is evidently increasing. A frequent use has also been made of the new chapel for funeral ceremonies. It has been used on seventy-three occasions, and its accommodations seem to have given general satisfaction. It is especially in demand where dwelling-houses have been closed for the summer season, or during absence of families abroad, or where there is no home for funeral exercises.

Death has visited our Board the past year. We deeply regret the loss from our number of the late Samuel Johnson. The high esteem with which we regarded him is shown in our records by the following votes:—

"Voted. That we wish to enter on our records our high appreciation of our late associate, Samuel Johnson. Upon his judgment and ability we could always rely, and his long financial experience and business capacity eminently fitted him to perform the duties of a Trustee. We feel also that by his death we have lost a true friend whose courteous manners and cheerful, buoyant temper endeared him to all.

"Voted. That the Secretary be directed to send a copy of these votes to the family and relatives of our lamented friend."

All which is respectfully submitted,

For the Trustees,

ISRAEL M. SPELMAN,

President.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Trustees of the Cemetery of Mount Auburn:

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honor to present herewith the Annual Report of the Superintendent for the year ending Dec. 31, 1899.

IMPROVEMENTS.

Number of new lots graded and bounded with granite posts	55
" old lots improved by being graded and sodded	57
" old lots bounded with granite posts	8
" lots enclosed with granite	0
" lots enclosed with iron fence	0
" lots furnished with granite or iron numbers	41
" headstones erected	331
" monuments erected	55
" catch basins built	4
" tons crushed stone spread on avenues	500
" lineal feet of concrete paths built	100
" tombs removed	1
" iron fences removed	14
" granite curbing removed	8

INTERMENT RECORD.

Total number of interments, as per last report	32,415
Number of original interments for the year ending Dec. 31, 1899	481
" removals from other cemeteries	24
Total number of interments for the year	505
" " " in cemetery	32,920
Of the above there were deposited in the receiving tomb	37
" " " interments in public lots	21

THE REMOVALS WITHIN AND FROM THE CEMETERY WERE AS FOLLOWS:

To public lots	1
To private lots	43
Total removals within the cemetery	44
" " from the cemetery	17
Total number of removals	61

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES C. SCORGIE,

Superintendent of the Cemetery of Mt. Auburn.

MOUNT AUBURN, Dec. 31, 1899.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

RECEIPTS.

Cash balance from preceding year		\$12,210.30	
He has received from sundry parties, —			
For sales of lots	\$21,368.10		
“ labor and materials on lots, etc.	59,248.53		
“ deposits in receiving tomb	1,353.00		
		\$81,969.63	
For deeds and transfers	\$202.00		
Interest on loans	5,025 68		
From Massachusetts Hospital Life Insurance Company for income on Permanent Fund,	8,000.00		
From Massachusetts Horticultural Society for one quarter of expenditure for grading new lands for sale	192.61		
Notes receivable	50,000.00	63,420.29	
			145,389.92
			<u>\$ 157,600.22</u>

FOR THE 68TH YEAR, 1899.

EXPENDITURES.

He has paid sundry parties, —			
For labor (pay roll)	\$37,803.26		
“ materials	13,741.66		
“ repairs of buildings and fences	1,549.20		
“ receiving tomb drawbacks	15.00		
“ new chapel	400.59		
			\$ 53,509.71
For expenses, —			
For salaries	\$7,300.00		
“ office expenses	2,333.33		
“ taxes on real estate	1,184.61		
“ insurance	100.00		
			10,917.94
For amount paid Massachusetts Horticultural Society for its proportion of sales	\$5,310.27		
“ graves repurchased	65.00		
“ amount paid Massachusetts Hospital Life Insurance Company for permanent fund	6,616.03		
“ crematory, and repairs old chapel	13,032.80		
“ notes receivable	50,000.00		
			75,024.10
Balance in hands of Treasurer			18,148.47
			<u>\$ 157,600.22</u>

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES OF THE REPAIR FUND.

Balance in the hands of Treasurer, as per last report . . .	\$ 58,379.44
He has received, —	
From notes receivable	\$ 43,500.00
“ endowments	46,320.37
“ National Shawmut Bank Stock in liquidation, dividend,	240.00
“ Income of investments	49,419.30
	<u>139,479.67</u>
	\$ 197,859.11
He has paid for said account, —	
For interest	\$ 340.28
“ care and improvement of lots	26,847.33
“ notes receivable secured by mortgage	136,000.00
	<u>\$ 163,187.61</u>
Balance in hands of Treasurer	34,671.50
	<u>\$ 197,859.11</u>

REPAIR FUND.

PROPERTY.

Endowments for perpetual repair of lots, as per last report, \$ 986,289.44	
Additions during the year	68,552.06
	<u>\$ 1,054,841.50</u>
Invested as follows: —	
Notes receivable secured by mortgage	\$ 1,004,600.00
\$10,000 Boston City Bonds	9,710.00
30 shares Atlas National Bank, cost	2,970.00
20 shares Atlantic National Bank, cost	2,700.00
20 shares Shawmut National Bank	\$ 2,430.00
Received on account in liquidation	2,240.00
	<u>190.00</u>
	\$ 1,020,170.00
Cash in hands of Treasurer	34,671.50
	<u>\$ 1,054,841.50</u>

GENERAL FUND.

CASH ASSETS.

Cash in hands of Treasurer	\$ 18,148.47
Notes receivable	100,000.00
Bills for labor and materials uncollected	\$ 12,840.50
Less due sundry parties for labor and material	2,228.63
	<u>10,611.87</u>
	\$ 128,760.34

PERMANENT FUND.

Deposited with Massachusetts Hospital Life Insurance Company, as per last report	\$ 389,799.32
Deposited in December, 1899	\$ 6,616.03
Interest	7,555.50
	<u>14,171.53</u>
	<u>\$ 403,970.85</u>

THE OTHER PROPERTY OF THE CORPORATION

Consists of nearly 136 acres of cemetery grounds, with avenues and paths, water works for the supply of fountains and watering purposes, and underground pipes and drains, new chapel, office buildings and statuary, old chapel remodeled for crematory, observatory, receiving tomb, gateway and other structures, reception house, and 5,620 feet of land on Mount Auburn Street, Superintendent's house, greenhouses, and 59,936 feet between Brattle and Mount Auburn Streets, the Coolidge Lot on Grove Street, containing about six acres, the Bird Lot on Sawin and Cottage streets, containing about 44,000 square feet, and the Stone meadow on the east side of Coolidge Avenue, containing about five acres, on which are located the stables and other buildings.

Respectfully submitted,

H. B. MACKINTOSH, *Treasurer.*

Boston, Dec. 31, 1899.

This certifies that the books and accounts of the Treasurer of the Proprietors of the Cemetery of Mount Auburn for the year eighteen hundred and ninety-nine have been examined and found correctly kept and properly balanced, with satisfactory vouchers for all payments.

The certificates of stock and other evidences of property were found in accordance with the statements of his accounts.

In the general account there appears to be a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of \$18,148.47, and in the fund for repairs, \$34,671.50.

JOSEPH B. RUSSELL, }
FRANK W. REYNOLDS, } *Committee on Finance.*

JANUARY 6, 1900.

PERPETUAL REPAIR OF LOTS.

It is provided by Art. VIII. of the By-Laws as follows: —

DONATION IN TRUST. — “The Trustees may receive in trust from a Proprietor any sum of money, the *income* of which shall be appropriated to the repair of his lot, according to the terms of trust expressed in the form provided.”

PERPETUAL REPAIR, WITH GUARANTY. — “The Trustees may also guarantee the *perpetual* repair of lots, upon the payment of such a sum as the Committee on Lots shall deem sufficient for that purpose, a form for which is also provided.”

“All such sums shall collectively constitute a separate fund, called the ‘Repair Fund,’ and shall be invested in the public debt of the United States, or in that of the State of Massachusetts, or in the debt of any of the counties, cities, or towns of this State, or in mortgages of real estate in any city or town in Massachusetts, or in first-mortgage bonds, or debenture bonds of railroads not mortgaged, of any railroad company incorporated under the authority of this Commonwealth, which has earned and paid regular dividends for the two years next preceding such investment.”

“Each lot in relation to which such a contract shall have been made shall be credited, in a book kept for the purpose, with the principal sum paid on account of said lot; and at the close of each year a ratable proportion of the net income of the whole Repair Fund shall be carried to its credit, in conformity with the terms of said contracts.”

RECONVEYANCE IN TRUST. — “A Proprietor who shall have contracted with the corporation for the care and preservation of his lot forever, desiring to place the same in perpetual trust, for the purpose of restricting the right of burial, or for any other legitimate object, may, with the consent of the Committee on Lots, reconvey such lot

to the corporation, to hold the same forever, for the uses and trusts expressed in his deed of reconveyance; reserving to himself, and to such as may be beneficiaries thereunder, the right of admission, and such supervision as may not be inconsistent with the rights which have vested in the corporation.”

Annexed to the GUARANTEE CONTRACT is a report by the Superintendent, with drawings, describing in detail the condition of the lot and structures thereon. The amount deposited is an *insurance FOREVER*, that the lot and its belongings shall always be maintained in the condition shown in the report which is made the basis of the contract.

To cover all the contingencies of the near and remote future, a sum is fixed, the income of which will be sufficient to provide for the care of the grass, including resodding, and the repair and renewal of such tomb, curb, monument, or headstone, as may be shown in the Superintendent's report.

If any monument or headstones are added subsequent to the contract, they can be covered in the same manner.

After a contract for perpetual repair, with *guaranty*, has been made, the lot may be reconveyed to the corporation *in trust*, naming in the deed the persons thereafter to be interred. The *title* to the lot being thus vested in the corporation, a *perfect security* is given that the wishes of the proprietor will be carried out.

Under the contract for DONATION IN TRUST, the *income* of any sum deposited is applied to the care and preservation of the lot.

The necessary forms for provision by will for the above are given herewith.

JAMES C. SCORGIE,
Superintendent.

CEMETERY OF MOUNT AUBURN.

FORM FOR CLAUSE IN WILL TO BEQUEATH MONEY FOR "PERPETUAL REPAIR,
WITH GUARANTY," OF LOT.

I hereby direct my executors to pay to the Proprietors of the Cemetery of Mount Auburn such sum of money as may be found necessary to obtain from said corporation a contract for the Perpetual Repair, with Guaranty, of my Lot, No. _____ on the way called _____ in said Cemetery.

FORM FOR CLAUSE IN WILL DIRECTING "RECONVEYANCE OF LOT TO CORPORATION IN TRUST."

[*Reconveyance is only accepted after a Contract for Perpetual Repair, with Guaranty, has been made.*]

I hereby authorize and empower my executors to reconvey my Lot, No. _____, in trust, to the Proprietors of the Cemetery of Mount Auburn, in consideration of the Contract of Perpetual Repair, with Guaranty, for the purpose of securing it as a burial place for myself and the following persons :

and no other interments to be allowed.

PRICES FOR THE CARE OF LOTS.

ADOPTED BY THE TRUSTEES.

FOR 1900.

SIZE OF LOT.	CARE.	TOP-DRESSING, DURING NOVEMBER ONLY.	
100 square feet.	\$1.50	\$1.00	Larger lots at special rates.
200 " "	2.00	1.50	Lots containing fractional
300 " "	3.00	2.00	parts of 100 feet will be
400 " "	4.00	2.50	charged the rate of the
500 " "	5.00	3.00	next larger size, when that
600 " "	6.00	3.50	fraction exceeds 50 feet.
700 " "	7.00	4.00	
800 " "	8.00	4.50	

Proprietors are requested to mail their orders to Superintendent, Cambridge.

For funeral services, a shelter tent to cover the plot will be provided at a moderate charge, when requested.

Estimates for grading and sodding, and repairs on lots, including cleaning Monuments and Headstones, will be furnished to proprietors on application, personally, or by letter, at Superintendent's office, Cambridge.

Iron fences and granite copings removed without expense to proprietors, who will be credited with any excess over cost of removal.

Single-chamber tombs, with entrance above ground, will be removed, the lot regraded and the necessary reinterments made, without charge, except for boxes, brick graves, resodding, or corner posts, when required.

Orders for foundations for Monuments and Headstones should specify, either by diagram or accurate description, the exact location in the lot which is desired, and should be given at least two weeks before wanted.

TO PROPRIETORS.

INFORMATION.

THE following statement is presented in answer to the question frequently asked in regard to the title to a lot when the proprietor dies.

By the original act of incorporation, lots are held as real estate. The proprietor can convey, or by will devise, his lot; but if he dies intestate it descends to his heirs-at-law, who are (Pub. St., ch. 125, § 1):—

1. Children, and issue of any deceased child.
2. If no issue, then his or her father and mother.
3. If no issue nor mother, then his or her father.
4. If no issue nor father, then his or her mother.
5. If no issue, and no father nor mother, then his or her brothers and sisters, and children of any deceased brother or sister.
6. If no issue, and no father, mother, brother, nor sister, then next of kin.

A widow has, in common with the children of her deceased husband, the possession, care and control of his lot during her life; and if he leaves no children, she has the sole possession, care and control of the lot during her life. She has also a right of interment therein, of which she cannot be deprived except by her own release. (Acts of 1885, ch. 302.) The same rights in the tomb or lot of his wife have now been given to a husband. (Acts of 1899, ch. 479, sect. 12.)

Title to lot held as real estate.

If proprietor dies intestate.

Heirs-at-law.

Rights of widow in lot.

Provisions of will.

Representative to be designated.

Representative no control over title.

Petition for representative. Importance of prompt return.

Lots indivisible. No record of part ownership.

If a proprietor in his will makes no devise of the lot, it becomes a part of the residuary estate; or if not devised, and no bequest of the residue is made, it descends to the heirs-at-law.

Pub. St., ch. 82, § 3, and sect. 8 of the Charter of the corporation, provide, "if there be more than one devisee or heir-at-law, the Board of Trustees may designate which one shall represent the lot."

This designation *does not affect the title*. They (the heirs or devisees) are tenants-in-common; no sale can be made unless all sign conveyance.

It is IMPORTANT that the petition for representation (furnished by the Secretary) should be PROMPTLY returned with the names and residences of the heirs, and signed by a *majority*; otherwise delays may occur at the cemetery in ascertaining whether the order for interment is properly signed.

Lots are *indivisible*, and "no record of any person's interest in a lot, less than the entire ownership, shall be made on the books of the corporation." (Rules and Regulations, Art. vii.)

LEWIS G. FARMER,

Secretary.

APPENDIX.

Acts of 1898, Chap. 437. .

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE CEMETERY CORPORATIONS TO INCINERATE BODIES OF THE DEAD.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Any cemetery corporation organized under the laws of this Commonwealth may cremate or incinerate bodies of the dead, and may erect, maintain, and operate the buildings, appliances, and facilities for so doing and for the disposition of the ashes of the dead, on any of its land within the enclosure of its cemetery which the state board of health may determine to be suitable for that purpose, and such buildings, appliances, and facilities shall be deemed to be a part of the cemetery and to be dedicated to the burial of the dead, and shall be held by said corporations subject to the duties, and with the privileges and immunities which they now have under general laws or by special act or acts.

SECTION 2. In all matters concerning the construction of such buildings, the cremation or incineration of dead bodies, and the disposition of the ashes, said cemeteries shall be subject to the provisions of chapter two hundred and sixty-five of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and eighty-five.

SECTION 3. Nothing contained in this act shall be construed to deprive any corporation acting under its provisions of any right, immunity, or privilege heretofore acquired under any special act or acts.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage. [*Approved May 17, 1898.*]

Acts of 1885, Chap. 265.

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE FORMATION OF CORPORATIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREMATING THE BODIES OF THE DEAD.

SECTION 3. Every such corporation may make by-laws and regulations consistent with law and subject to the approval of said state board [of

health], for the reception and cremation of bodies of deceased persons, and for the disposition of the ashes remaining therefrom, and shall carry on all its business in accordance with such regulations as said board shall from time to time establish and furnish in writing to the clerk of the corporation, and for each violation of said regulations it shall forfeit not less than twenty nor more than five hundred dollars.

SECTION 4. No body of a deceased person shall be cremated within forty-eight hours after decease, unless death was occasioned by contagious or infectious disease; and no body shall be received or cremated by said corporation until its officers have received the certificate or burial permit required by law before burial, together with a certificate from the medical examiner of the district within which the death occurred, that he has viewed the body and made personal inquiry into the cause and manner of death, and is of opinion that no further examination nor judicial inquiry concerning the same is necessary. For such view, inquiry, and certificate he shall receive the fees prescribed by section nine of chapter twenty-six of the Public Statutes for a view without an autopsy by examiners in counties other than Suffolk County. Medical examiners within their respective districts shall make such view and inquiry upon application therefor and payment or tender of said fees.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon its passage. [*Approved May 26, 1885.*]

Proprietors of the Cemetery of Mount Auburn.

Office of the Corporation, 5 Tremont Street.

BOSTON, Jan. 23, 1900.

The Annual Meeting of the Proprietors of the Cemetery of Mount Auburn will be held at the Horticultural Hall, Tremont Street, Boston, on Monday, Feb. 5, 1900, at 3 1-2 o'clock, P. M., to hear the Annual Reports, choose Trustees, consider an amendment to Article II. of the By-Laws, providing for the creation of the office of an Assistant Treasurer, with such powers and duties as the Board of Trustees shall, from time to time, determine, and transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

LEWIS G. FARMER, Secretary.